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1-12 September 1991 Majles Sessions

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NOTICE TO READERS: An • indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

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RESALAT Reports on Majles Sessions

*** 1 Sep**

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[Text] Report on Yesterday's Open Session of the Majles

Legislative and Parliamentary Division—The Majles open session was held yesterday morning with Hojjat ol-Eslam Karrubi presiding.

Following the statements by the representative from Khorramabad, the Majles went into session.

Below is the report by our RESALAT correspondent on yesterday's open session of the Majles.

'Ali Mohammad Suri, Representative From Khorramabad

The only strategic weapon of the Islamic Republic against the Great Satan is "national unity and allegiance to the Leader [Khamene'i]."

The only pre-agenda speaker in the open session of the Majles yesterday was 'Ali Mohammad Suri, the representative from Khorramabad, who offered his condolences on the anniversary of the 40th day after the martyrdom of Aba Abdullah al-Hoseyn to the lovers of His Holiness. He also offered his condolences on the anniversary of the death of the spiritual scholar, Grand Ayatollah Mar'ashi-Najafi, and honored the memory of Martyrs Raja'i and Bahonar.

He continued by honoring Government Week and referring to the visit of the grand Leader to the oppressed Province of Lorestan.

He said: I sincerely thank his honor on behalf of the group of representatives from Lorestan for his attention to this province and his instructions with regard to key projects.

He added: It is the pure truth and an inevitable fact, perhaps even a divine tradition, that the people play the determining and essential role. This is even evident in the lives of the leaders and religious figures. Upon taking into consideration the lives of the infallible imams, we reach the decisive conclusion that what caused these revered ones to be unable to establish governments was the coming to fruition of the conspiracies of the enemies, various ways of threatening and deceiving the people, and separating them from the imams. The bitter scenes of divine leaders being oppressed throughout the course of history indicates this. The opposite also exists. A living example is the uprising of the man of God, the spirit of God, the imam of the oppressed, the great Khomeyni, the founder of the Islamic Republic, who, despite the unity and allegiance of the heathenistic world against him, was able, by taking charge of the hearts of the great sea of human beings thirsty for justice, to break apart the global conspiracy and uproot the foundations of the historical government with its 2,500-year-old roots, and toss it into the dustbin of history. After the establishment of the government, without relying on or seeking assistance from anyone but God and the support of the oppressed and suffering people, he was able to defend his revolution with the utmost power and dignity and spread its roots to the farthest parts of the world.

He explained the reasons for the enthusiastic interest of the people in their late leader and said: First of all, he was "for God" and for supporting the religion of God. Like his ancestor, Hoseyn b. 'Ali, he had made an uprising. Secondly, he considered the people to be the califs of God on earth and had devoted himself, his prestige, and his honor to serving these people, whom he called "the oppressed, the deprived, and the barefooted." He believed that the roaring flood of the people and the crushing waves of the nation would make up for any shortage, and this was truly so. These people blocked any conspiracy and were with the Imam to the end of the line. They did not break from him for a moment, and, God willing, they will not separate from his ideas until his goals have been attained and will defend the regime of the Islamic Republic as they would their own sweet lives. Fortunately, as a result of the sincere actions and efforts along the path of God of this best man in history, God's will turned in his support, so that after him a person who had been a student at the Imam's school, who had learned his lessons well, was faithful to the path of His Reverence, and was not distanced from him by even a speck took charge of the affairs.

He then added: In various statements of the grand Leader of the revolution, Ayatollah Khamene'i, there has been consistent emphasis on the values intended by the Imam, such as the rule of Islamic values over the rule of money, as well as consideration for the oppressed in the society, the struggle against the ruling Great Satan abroad, and, especially, support for the liberation of Islamic movements, particularly the overall support for the oppressed people of Palestine. His imam-like statements to the officials of the regime on the blessed birthday of the fifth imam of the Shi'ites (His Holiness Mohammad Baqer), completely wiped off the dust of ambiguity from the hearts of the lovers of the revolution and the Imam and clouded the hearts of the domestic and foreign opportunists.

The speaker added: But for me and all those in the Province of Lorestan whose lives are dependent, like the fish, on the endless sea of the revolution, the visit of his honor sealed the certainty of what we held in our hearts and believed, that this appointment was not incidental and that the blood of the country's martyrs, God willing, will lead to the realization. What was actually evident in this visit was the repetition of the principles of the Imam, "Uprising for God, with the people at the center," the same people that the Imam had in mind, the oppressed, the deprived, the mobilized forces, men and women who carried the heavy burden of supporting the revolution along its course. In this visit, there were no signs of worldly manifestations, such as boring ceremonies and political and security arrests, the cleaning of the streets, in short, the propaganda noise that accompany

pomp and ceremony. Rather, in his actions, speeches and dealings, the leader of the revolution acted on the statement of the Imam that "The world is before God," which resulted in creating a divine aspect to the presence of the Leader in the hearts of the people, who have endured hardship, as if their problems had been resolved. What caused happiness in the hearts of the lovers of the revolution was that in these two or three days, in neither private nor public gathering were there signs of people whose worth was measured by their capital. Instead, his honor was present among the oppressed classes and the mobilized forces. In one word, the "joy of the Hezbollah" represented the strong fortress of leadership and revolution. The humble presence of the Leader among the villagers with calloused hands and the emphasis of the Leader on being a servant of the people was very sweet. The eager visit of the parents of the martyrs to their Leader was full of hope. There were four full hours of public visit, visits from all people, including men, women, and children, unmediated, in a perfectly sincere atmosphere with their Leader, and emptying their full hearts concerning the officials who flee from seeing and confronting the people.

Suri also emphasized to the officials of the regime making this important principle, "acting for God and the presence of the people on the scene," their model. In the sacred regime of the Islamic Republic, which is rooted in the blood of Imam Hoseyn and his true supporters, political games, tricks, placing one's interests above all else, and selfishness will not succeed and sooner or later will be condemned to deviate from the revolution. The experience of 13 years since the victory of 1357 [21 March 1978-20 March 1979] shows that the sacred regime of the Islamic Republic is the only regime that, like the movements of the prophets, by the grace of God, supports the oppressed and barefooted people. If, God forbid, one day these people no longer see their ideals in this regime, we should feel seriously threatened. Hence, it is the religious and revolutionary duty of any true servant of the Islamic Republic to consider serving people, beyond the realm of political games, as his main duty. In particular, the government of the Islamic Republic, in response to the instructions of the grand Leader of the Islamic revolution, should more forcefully prepare the grounds and become involved in economic affairs so that the people on small salaries, the farmers, the small businessmen, and those who have no other way to make a living but by manual labor, are able to afford the high cost of living.

Referring to the unity of the people, he said: Today, the unity of the society by bringing the hearts of the people closer to one another is another grave duty that must be placed on the shoulders of anyone who feels compassion for the revolution, especially at this particular juncture, when the Great Satan, by driving out its powerful rival, the "former Soviet Union" and the whole communist system, has become the sole rider in the political and military arena of the world, its only obstacle to governing the world absolutely being "the beloved people of the Islamic Republic." The only strategic weapon of the Islamic Republic against this center of corruption is "national unity and obedience to the Leader." Under such circumstances, no one is permitted by any means to create disunity in the society. Anyone who would even create disunity between two people has committed an unforgivable sin and shall be responsible before God. It is hoped that the brave and noble nation of Iran, under the auspices of Islam, by realizing the sensitivity of the times, as in the past, will stand behind the Leader of the revolution, who has decided to achieve the goals of the great Khomeyni, with their constant and united presence on all the scenes of the revolution, and turn the hopes of the enemies to despair.

In conclusion, the representative from Khorramabad asked the government Cabinet to provide the foundation for the implementation of the projects emphasized by the grand Leader of the revolution as soon as possible.

Ratification

The bill on the coordinated system of payment of employees of the government was examined in the open session of the Majles yesterday, and several articles of this bill were ratified by the representatives.

According to Article 1 of this bill, the base salary of official employees subject to the national employment law and the employment regulations of government companies ratified in 1352 [21 March 1973-20 March 1974] shall be equal to the result of the multiplier of the salary stated in Article 33 of the above-mentioned law multiplied by the base number of the related group in accordance with the following charts, which will replace the salary chart of Article 32 of the national employment law.

Base Group	Base Number
1	200
2	350
3	500
4	560
5	620
6	680
7	720
8	810
9	880
10	950
11	1020

The differences of the base numbers of consecutive groups after group 11 shall be 70.

Note 1. Entry groups of employees who are subject to this law will be allocated on the basis of their education, the type of position and sensitivity, the importance of

their duties, the level of responsibilities, and the occupational field in one of the first 11 groups of the chart subject to Article 1.

Note 2. The base numbers for the officials and others at the same levels are determined as described below. These base numbers are applicable in combination with th salary multiplier mentioned in Article 1.

A. Deputy ministers: 1,700.

B. Governors general, ambassadors: 1,800.

C. Ministers, Majles representatives, vice presidents, deputy directors of the judicial branch, and the head of the national accounting office: 1,900.

D. First vice president, deputy speakers of the Majles and members of the Council of Guardians: 2,000.

E. The heads of the three branches: 2,200.

Note 3. The officials mentioned above—after the completion of their post—shall be allocated respectively at the highest group of the above chart, and the salaries of each shall be determined on the basis of the base number of the related group. The prime ministers of the revolution period are at the same level as first vice president.

Note 4. The government shall be responsible for approving the change in the salary multiplier subject to Article 33 of the national employment law and the later amendments, which every year shall be proposed with consideration for the cost of living jointly by the national administrative and employment agency, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance, the Plan and Budget Organization and the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and to increase the salaries of retired persons.

Article 2. The salaries of employees shall be determined every year with consideration to their acceptable service in the previous year as follows:

(The multiplier of the annual increase + 1.) Last year's salary = the salary of every year.

The multiplier for the annual increase shall be on the basis of the evaluation of the employers at 3, 4, and 5 percent.

Note 1. For every year of their service up to the end of 1369 [20 March 1991], those employees whose salaries do not conform to this law shall receive an annual increase at 3 percent of their base salary in the related groups on the basis of their education.

Note 2. The annual increase for every official subject of Note 2 of Article 1 will be calculated on the basis of the related base number.

Note 3. Those subject to Note (3) of Article (1) who are employed in any government organization or Islamic revolution institution or establishment or company which is eligible, provided the name has been cited, shall receive an annual increase based on the amount of the base figure for the related group.

Article 3. If the kind of work, responsibilities, and duties related to jobs subject to this law require the payment of amounts in addition to the base salary of the employees in those jobs, this amount shall be payable under the title of extra job pay upon the suggestion of the related organization and the ratification of the salary and wages council.

Note 4. Employees who have had more than 30 years of government service and who have paid or will pay the related deduction, in place of the rial equivalent of the last base subject to Article 3 of the law amending the regulations for retirement and duty of the national employment law ratified on 13/12/69 [2 April 1990], may benefit from double annual increases for every year of service over 30 years.

Article 3. [as published] The level of extra pay of working employees will be at least 50 percent of the base salary of the related group, which can be increased with consideration given to the kind of work, duties, and responsibilities, in order to standardize the payment up to 150 percent of their base salary.

Note 1. The extra pay of the job of those in management and supervisory capacities, in addition to the extra pay subject to this Article, can be increased up to 25 percent of their base salary.

Note 2. The extra pay of that group of employees in charge of specialized, research, or teaching jobs, in addition to the above, can be increased by 25 percent.

Article 4. Those employees whose jobs have become standard and those who carry out their duties at a level above the standard for their job will receive extra pay every month at a maximum of an amount equivalent to their base pay, according to the value of the standard unit of the work and extra work carried out.

Note 1. Employees whose jobs cannot be standardized and who satisfactorily carry out their duties at a higher than normal level may also benefit from the same rate of extra work.

Note 2. The standard of general jobs will be determined by the national administrative and employment affairs and the standards for special jobs upon the suggestion of the related organizations and the verification of administrative and employment affairs.

Article 5. Taking into consideration the changes due to the implementation of this law in regards to changing and amending the percentage or level of payment of the extra pay subject to Articles 39 and 40 of the national employment law, the government is responsible for taking steps within the limits of the ratified funds.

Article 6. Grant aid to those with dependents and children of employees subject to the national employment law and this law shall be payable as follows.

1. With regard to actively working and retired male employees and those who receive regular pay and are subject to this law who have children up to 20 years of age, for every child (a maximum of three children), 10 percent monthly of the minimum of the base salary in the chart of Article 1 of this law shall be paid as child expense assistance pay.

Children of deceased employees subject to this law who are younger than 20 years of age shall be eligible for the above-mentioned assistance.

3. [as published] The maximum age for children to make use of the benefits of this law, provided they are studying and present the pertinent certificates, shall be a full 25 years for male children and the time of marriage for female children.

Article 7. The chart and procedure for promotion of the group of employees shall be determined on the basis of the importance of their work, responsibilities, importance of duties, experience, education, and evaluation of employees, which shall be the criteria at the time of the adjustment of the salaries and benefits of the working employees and also in the implementation of the content of Article 2 of this law. The number of eligible groups at every educational level shall be determined in accordance with the above Articles 5-7.

Note 1. The salaries of employees who receive group promotions shall be determined on the basis of the base figure in the new group in addition to the total annual increases in the previous group.

Note 2. Employees whose jobs have special and complex characteristics and are highly sensitive or have special and unusual skills will be allocated to one of the groups in the chart of Article 1.

Note 3. Employees who attain or have attained the lofty rank of martyrdom will always be placed two groups above working and similar employees and shall benefit from annual increases as before.

Note 4. The government may in the following cases grant one or two incentive groups to employees in addition to their appropriate group.

A. Released POW's

B. Self-sacrificers of the Islamic revolution

C. Combatants who have served at least six consecutive months or nine alternative months on the battle fronts of right against wrong

D. Managers

E. Employees with distinguished service

Note 5. Employees who receive a group demotion shall receive the difference between the base salary of the previous and new groups in addition to the total increases of the previous year.

Any subsequent annual increase regarding this kind of employee in the new group and also increase in salaries due to promotion in the later group shall be deducted from the difference until it is fully amortized.

Note 6. Unofficial education of employees which corresponds to official education shall be equivalent to official educational degrees.

The continuation of the examination of the details of this bill was scheduled for today's session.

*** 2 Sep**

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[Excerpt]

Report on Yesterday's Open Session of the Majles

Legislative and Parliamentary Division—The Majles public session was held yesterday morning and was chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Karrubi.

Following statements by the deputies from Boin Zahra, Marand, and Bafi, the Majles went into session.

Below is the report from RESALAT's parliamentary correspondent on yesterday's public Majles session.

'Abbas Mirza Abu Talebi, Deputy From Boin Zahra

The first pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's public Majles session was 'Abbas Mirza Abutalebi, Boin Zahra and Avaj deputy, who used three minutes of the Marand deputy's time. [passage omitted thanking Mr. Nuri for appointing Mr. Mohammad Ebrahim Tajik, governor of Qazvin, replacing Mr. Razavi, who was dismissed because of incompetence.]

Karim Shafe'i, Deputy From Marand

Karim Shafe'i, Marand deputy, was the second pre-agenda speaker. He discussed the fall of communism in the Soviet Union, saying: With the disgraceful collapse of the communist world view, the fall of the nonmonotheistic world view from the greatest man-made heights came into view, and the sound of the breaking bones of communism once again sounded the call to mankind to worship the One God. Undoubtedly, the defeat of communism in the world is not just the defeat of a political party or the defeat of the governments of one or several countries in the management of their countries' affairs, it is the defeat of the atheist world view in the management of the world affairs of the people, the defeat of the ideology of atheism in the management of the social relations of nations, and the defeat of the nonmonotheistic theories in the growth and improvement of human relations. Communism has been branded a failure. The communist nations have fallen one after another, and the leaders and standard-bearers of this idea have raised the banner of surrender and shame in absolute disgrace. The hopes of the supporters and advocates of this idea have been dashed. This is only the beginning, however. Communism and the communist nations will go to the

limits of oblivion. It is hoped that the Muslim republics of the Soviet Union will achieve full independence, that the communists will be removed from government positions, and that a union of Muslim republics will form with one government, one Majles, and one army.

He continued: Here I direct the attention of writers and thinkers to the need to promote the theistic world view in the communist nations, where the people are truly thirsty for it, and I declare that the nations of the communist world have opened their arms to Islam and, if we act properly, the efforts of America and the West will not bear long-term fruits.

Elsewhere in his talk, the speaker discussed the matter of serious investment in the industrial sector. There has been good investment in the industrial sector, but nevertheless, it is evident that the production lines at most factories are slow, costs are high, and quality is unreliable. The industrial ministries must act quickly to make industries into more than just administrative and production centers, and direct all the resources in the private and semiprivate sectors towards creating workshops that adjoin the factories. For example, because of the lack of related industrial establishments near the factories, it is seen that companies are sending their orders to other provinces and municipalities, or in some cases, despite the fact that the product is made domestically, they prefer to enter into dealings with foreign companies and producers.

Shafe'i went on to discuss the problems of education and training in the Province of West Azerbaijan. He said: The province has a 52 percent literacy rate, which is 9 percent lower than the national literacy rate, and 26 percent lower than the literacy rate in Tehran Province. This percentage gives the province a national ranking of 21. The province's real educational effort at the elementary and junior high stages is 8.95 and 14.54 percent less, respectively, than the national average, and in the period between 1358 and 1367 [21 March 1979-20 March 1989], the Province of East Azerbaijan ranked 20th among the 24 provinces in the nation in terms of investment in education and training. The per capita expenditure on education in the province is 46.044 rials, while that figure is 51.74 rials nationally. The above facts plus the drop in efficiency, quality of teaching, the three-shift schedules at the schools, the low level of literacy, and finally, the low rate of province enrollments in universities and institutions of higher learning, lead us to conclude that there is a need for attention by all those who work in this area toward the expansion of classroom space, the procurement of specialist manpower, the increase in the share of university students, teachers, and students acccording to the plan, the timely procurement of materials needed by the schools, the provision of land and classroom space, and likewise the expansion of technical and professional training.

With respect to the agricultural area, he said: There are about 2.1 million hectares of land under cultivation in the province, which is 12.7 percent of the nation's agricultural land. Of this total, the percentage for each agricultural product is: 11.6 percent wheat, 8 percent barley, 12.9 dry-farmed products, 25 percent potatoes, and 29 percent onions. The production shares of these crops (potatoes and onions) are 25 and 42 percent, respectively. The potential of the province's water resources is 8.4 billion cubic meters, of which only 4.2 billion cubic meters is being used. The province has 13 million head of livestock, which is 10 percent of the nation's livestock population. In terms of feed procurement resources, this province provides only 58 percent of the feed needed by its 13 million head of livestock. Therefore, in this province we need:

(1) a comprehensive study of water resources and water basins;

(2) large and small dams to capture surface water;

(3) utilization of the Aras border rivers and obtaining necessary funds to carry this out;

(4) soil studies, designating the soil capabilities, and obtaining the necessary funds;

(5) long-term policy-making for land integration; and,

(6) comprehensive studies of the Jolfa and Tabriz plains, procuring the funds needed to produce agricultural crops, and creation of relative welfare for the public and farmers.

Yadollah Eslami, Deputy From Baft

Development is possible only by relying on our own manpower and domestic resources.

The final pre-agenda speaker was Yadollah Eslami, Baft deputy. He said: The rule of law in organizing social relations is very important and it is absolutely impermissible to deviate from this. It is appropriate for officials to adhere to legal regulations and to observe essential principles in their words and actions.

The phenomenon of working from the basis of personal preference and taste in interpretation of the law will cause the social system to collapse and bring about social disruption, and if this spreads and gets out of control, it will lead to political and social disturbances, and no organization has immunity in this regard. Government by the nation will be damaged, and nothing will be stable. Thus the solution is to take a comprehensive view and studiously to avoid any actions based on taste in implementing or interpreting the laws of the land.

From this perspective, I will note the importance of comprehensive implementation of the law in one or two instances.

He continued: First, I will discuss the need to implement the first [five-year] plan, and I will look at all the relevant procedures, general policies, notes, and tables. If the concern is economic equilibrium to eliminate obstacles and achieve economic prosperity, it is necessary to look

at other areas discussed in the five-year plan, such as setting a pattern of consumption, setting minimum standards of living for the public, eliminating middlemen and public access to needed goods from production sources through only one middleman, observing bank credit ceilings set for various economic sectors, procurement of the foreign exchange provided for nonpetroleum exports, observing the established rate of foreign exchange based on the designated tables, observing the amount of foreign exchange allocated in the annual budget based on the approved ceiling, monitoring the amount borrowed from the banking system and observing the designated ceiling, and things of this nature.

Second, I emphasize the need to observe the law in relation to press affairs and the manner of dealing with violations. Since issues have been raised recently in public on this matter, citing the Press Law enacted 5/20/1358 [11 August 1979] by the Revolutionary Council, which is still in force based on the Press Law enacted by the Majles on 12/22/1362 [14 March 1984], I note that it is only lawful to deal with press crimes in a public court with a jury present. The jury is a group composed of a representative of the Ministry of Guidance, the chief of the city council, and if there is no city council, the mayor, and the chief justice of the municipal court will choose from among the clergy, the university professors, physicians, writers, newspaper writers, attorneys, teachers, office managers, guilds, tradesmen, workers, and farmers. This panel will consist of 14 members, including seven permanent members and seven rotating members.

He added: Based on Article 34 of the aforementioned law, at press trials court deliberations will be official with a quorum of seven jury members, and based on Article 35, a majority of the jury in attendance at court will designate misdemeanors or entitlements to reductions in the case of misdemeanors, and the verdict issued by the court will be based on the decision of members of the jury.

Here I thank the Ministry of Islamic Guidance for making it possible to form a press jury in Tehran, although this took place after long delay, but in view of the positions and views of some judicial insiders about how to deal with press violations, this is cause for hope and encouragement for newspaper reporters and writers.

Elsewhere in his talk, Eslami emphasized: Cultural, political, and economic invasions have had various effects in important sectors of society, and they must be studied carefully, and with a clear understanding of the subject, its reasons and its factors, appropriate steps must be taken to overcome the imperfections.

Cultural invasions are not separate from economic and political invasions. The ways to confront the economic invasion include strengthening the foundations of production, eliminating middlemen and brokering, preventing waste and dissipation, making efforts to achieve suitable public welfare, confronting the phenomenon of the bipolar and multipolarization of society, filling class gaps, and other such approaches. With respect to political affairs, the ways include spreading the spirit of free discussion and debate, giving importance to the matter of criticism, and more important, strengthening the spirit among officials and managers of accepting criticism, creating a climate suitable for presenting the views of thinkers and intellectuals, putting work in the hands of committed and knowledgeable elements, creating a sound atmosphere for presenting information to audiences and concern for their intelligence and high political insight, and dealing seriously with the ways of flattery. Alongside these matters, in the area of cultural affairs, help to deepen faith and ideology, spread the spirit of investigation, allowing room for creative and inquisitive thought, and establish a sound environment in society for presenting works of art and constructive criticism. The study of these works is quite vital; people with talent, writers, artists, and film makers will be encouraged and given incentive to work and make efforts in this area, and so that their works will evolve through the processes of criticism and study.

He added: Unfortunately sometimes, instead of criticizing and showing the way, the pages of the newspapers and publications give space to curses, accusations, and slander, and this is not worthy of the cultural atmosphere of an Islamic society. It is hoped that the supporters of the Islamic revolution will give more attention to this matter.

The Rafi deputy continued: The acute need for industrial machinery requires that we develop intellectually and train committed manpower and access the technical knowledge and specialist skills.

The development of suitable educational climate in light of research and the necessary budget allocation, research, the creation of credit and resources to permit educational workers to obtain new knowledge and science, the timely and suitable procurement of books needed by students and scholars, and the improvement of existing classroom space demand greater attention and concern.

Since the matter of education, and especially at the elementary levels, has a very effective role to play in the evolution of the personality and the emergence of the talents of the individuals being taught, efforts to raise the quantity and quality of elementary education by expanding classroom space, bringing all children who must be taught into the classroom, and procuring the material and spiritual needs of teachers and students are of serious importance and deserving of attention, and ignoring these matters will cause even more serious problems to arise in the future.

Expansion can be achieved solely by relying on our own manpower and domestic resources. Therefore, before buying and stockpiling machinery, let us think about expanding and evolving the ideas and training of skilled manpower.

Elsewhere in his talk, the speaker discussed recent developments in the Soviet Union. He said: To implement Perestroyka, Gorbachev played every card he was holding without getting anything significant in return, and he converted yesterday's superpower to today's needy, West-dependent, Americanized power, to the point that today Gorbachev's hopes in America and Western economic aid have shown the practical effects.

Still on the same topic he emphasized: The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic republic must consider with care and sensitivity the developments in the Soviet Union. In addition to announcing the views of the nations of the West and especially criminal America, it must present our nation as a silent observer of events. Correct, timely, and real positions in view of our national resources is something that cannot be overlooked.

Eslami added: In the nation's existing circumstances, with all the obstacles and the inadequacies, public unity and national resolve are imperative to overcome the problems. The public atmosphere in society cannot tolerate new political intrigues. As I said at the beginning of my talk, if relations are ordered based on respect for the law, if the government implements approved programs, if the Majles does not disregard the matter of supervision, if the representatives of the people in the Majles with good will and for the purpose of reform will emphasize inadequacies and possible errors, if this were to be regarded as the legal right of the respected deputies, if the political factions would discuss their views and opinions on important domestic and foreign issues with debate and discussion in a sound atmosphere, if the newspapers were a bridge of relations between the people and the officials under sound conditions, if newspaper writers would attempt to understand problems and reflect on views and ways to overcome the inadequacies with penetrating vision and careful assessments, if officials would respect the role of newspapers and journalism as an important pillar of freedom, if insults, accusations and slander in discussions and speeches would give way to reasoning and the presentation of proofs, if the integrity of personalities, organizations, and groups is preserved instead of accusing this one and that one and laying blame on rivals, if a climate for sympathy and cooperation is created through an understanding of conditions, it will then be possible to overcome many problems and "nothing will be left, either of the vine or the plaster of the vine."

In conclusion Eslami said: The arrest and imprisonment of the ABRAR newspaper reporter in Parsabad-e Moghan on charges of preparing and sending a news report, and the minister of Housing and Urban Development's expulsion of reporters from a meeting of that ministry's general managers in Hamadan, although presented as simple affairs, are matters of serious importance. While declaring deep regret at the unacceptable handling of reporters, I hope the respected chief justice and the respected president of the republic will send the necessary reminders to the executive officials to preserve the respect and the rights of those working in the public media and especially reporters, so that, God willing, in the future we will not see encounters and incidents of this kind, and that newspaper reporters will be able to fulfill their important mission in complete security.

Ratifications

Continuing the reviewing process of the Uniform Government Employee Payment Bill, the Majles studied and approved five more articles of this bill.

Article 8: All government organizations, institutions, companies, and all Islamic revolutionary organizations with specific employment regulations, and banks, municipalities, and companies and institutions which must be mentioned by name to be covered by the law will be subject to the rules and regulations of this law.

Article 9: The difference in the salaries and wages of nonofficial workers in the organizations that are subject to this law cannot be more than 60 percent from the total salaries and wages of employees under this law in comparable positions.

Article 10: The table in Article 1 of this law and the other relevant articles will replace the table on average wages in Article 16 of the Employment Guidelines for Majles officials until the end of the trial period for these guidelines.

The implementation guidelines for this article will be approved by the Majles joint committees of accounting, budget and financial affairs, and administrative and employment affairs.

Article 11: The wages and bonuses for those with doctoral and master's degrees and equivalent credentials with respect to employment who are employed at educational, research, or scholarly units and centers of universities covered by this law may not be more than 80 percent less than the total wages and bonuses of comparable workers covered by the University Faculty and Institutions of Higher Learning Law.

Article 12: The decree in Article 136 of the Islamic Republic of Iran Army Law enacted in 1366 [21 March 1987-20 March 1988] and Note 2 under Article 1 of the Law on Permanent Wages and Benefits, Fixed Savings, Insurance and Health Insurance Premiums of Those Covered by Law, and the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran enacted in 1368 [21 March 1989-20 March 1990] are not affected by the increase in this law.

Continued consideration of this bill was postponed to today's Majles session.

*** 3 Sep**

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[Excerpts]

Report of Yesterday's Open Session of the Majles

Legislative and Parliamentary Division—The Majles met in public session yesterday morning and was chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Karrubi.

Following statements by deputies from Arak, Qasr-e Shirin, and Bijar, the Majles opened the session by addressing the Uniform Government Employee Payments Bill.

This bill will be enforceable if it is approved by the Council of Guardians. While the bill was under consideration, and in view of some approved amendments, a number of Majles deputies and government representatives acknowledged that the bill will impose another financial burden on the government, which is illegal and will encounter problems in the Council of Guardians.

Below is the report from RESALAT's parliamentary correspondent on yesterday's public Majles session.

Seyyed Hasan al-Hoseyni, Deputy From Arak

Just as belligerence and isolation are unacceptable in foreign policy, belligerence and distance from the people are also unacceptable in domestic affairs.

The first pre-agenda speaker was Seyyed Hasan al-Hoseyni, the Arak deputy.

He said: According to Article 1 under the first development plan, which is a national agreement for reconstruction, executive and credit programs, general policies and quantitative goals include: reconstruction and completion of the defense foundation, reconstruction and new construction of production capacities, infrastructure, and damaged population centers; expanding the quantity and raising the quality of the general culture of education, training, science and technology in society with special attention to the younger generation; creating economic growth aimed at increasing per-capita production, productive employment, decreasing dependence with emphasis on self-sufficiency in strategic agricultural crops and anchoring inflation; efforts to establish social-Islamic justice, procuring the minimum basic needs of individuals, designating and reforming the pattern of consumption to set the needs of the human being and society; reforming the National Executive and Judicial Management Organization in various areas, making efforts to create judicial security, geographical distribution of the society and activities appropriate to the relative preferences in each area.

Based on these goals, being in control of the plan must set the stage for achieving general objectives. Although there has been success in some areas, which calls for thanks and praise to all the executive officials, despite the fact that three years have gone by, we have had very limited success reaching some of the plan's major goals, such as goals number two, three, five, six, seven, eight, nine, and ten (mentioned above), where the so-called approach by the executive officials could reduce the existing defects, even if there are defects in the law as well, and these have led to abuses which have led to the dominance of unsound tendencies and incorrect inferences which the Majles must eliminate at a suitable opportunity and after careful studies by experts. Otherwise, legal and executive inadequacies and the ideas of some godless experts will cause us to be swallowed by the capitalist system economically, politically, and culturally, and we also will be based on the culture of the West.

He cited the Uniform Government Employee Payments Bill as a basic step in reforming the administrative system and in dealing with the situation of salaried workers most of whom are living below the poverty line and [consequently] are indifferent to work. He added: Despite this, we hope, with a series of complementary steps, most important of which is improving the situation of managers, that we will be able to give the greatest and best possible service to the efficiency and effect of some of the offices in Arak. Improvement of the situation of managers also depends on their proper and calculated selection and supervision by the Auditing Commission while the work is being done, so that corruption will not appear. This policy of bending and putting everything, including the fate of workers and staff, into the hands of private individuals, will result in a harsh approach to subordinates, both workers and staff, bureaucracy and regulations of personal preference, the spread of bribery and other common abuses, brokering, and the worship of ostentation.

He added: Today the revolution demands that we have an efficient system, a system that depends for its support on lawfulness and public acceptance. Just as belligerence and isolation are unacceptable in foreign policy in the first instance, belligerence and distance from the people are also unacceptable in domestic affairs, because it undermines national resolve and unity and it renders us incapable of dealing with existing threats and dangers. Therefore, with realism, let us put aside the fundamentalists, the political monopolists and the noncultural and nonplan tendencies dominating the plan, which sometimes put multiple economic pressures on the people, and let us eliminate bad management through adherence to regulations, supervision, and control so that we will not see the bad effects of the collapse of the administrative system and national unity.

He noted that one of the threats to our solidarity was and is America. He enumerated America's goals as follows:

1. Establishing a permanent presence for itself by imposing a new system and structure in the area through various means, such as removing the obstacles in Lebanon, the peace conference, the creation of Kordestan, bringing Turkey into the regional equation in the interest of the West, and using the sale of water to the Arab nations as a weapon.

2. Confronting the origin of the Islamic revolution, meaning Iran, which is being done in various ways.

I do not know what has happened, however, that a number of people have forgotten that our relationship with America is really a relationship between wolf and sheep, and are trying to spread optimism in society, and this is dangerous and threatening.

Of course the other threats that put us under severe pressure include the factionalism that, God forbid, could split the nation's close ranks.

In conclusion, he spoke on the problems in his electoral district. He said: The spread of industrial civilization in Arak and the enormous investments have naturally had and are having positive and negative effects. Population growth of almost ten percent, the undesirable effects of the wave of investments in the area such as the collapse of equilibrium in the province, especially in the Municipality of Arak, the problems of housing, traffic, urban, nonurban and rural transportation, the severe shortage of construction materials, the decline in specialist manpower in the offices and factories, the decrease in health care and treatment services, and critical social problems are among the regional difficulties caused by these new investments and the spread of industry.

Al-Hoseyni also called upon officials to take suitable steps to put into operation an urban bus company, to pave the main Arak roads, to allocate construction materials proportionate to the population growth, to give greater attention to rural roads, to procure fuel for the public, and to assign land for industrial organizations.

Mohammad Hoseyn Jahangiri, Qasr-e Shirin Deputy

The final pre-agenda speaker was Mohammad Hoseyn Jahangiri, Qasr-e Shirin deputy.

He said: Before the Islamic revolution today's world was managed by two visibly armed and equipped superpowers, and they divided humanity and its resources and wealth unequally between themselves and their satellites. When those in power saw that the Islamic nation of Iran, with firm resolve, divine will, and a deeply rooted orthodox movement had begun a permanent and solid uprising against countervalues, they began thinking of how to protect their illicit and oppressive resources, calling it national and strategic interests, and they came together for the purpose of turning back the tempestuous and rising tide of the Islamic revolution. Through joint investments, comprehensive outfitting and the mobilization of all resources, the first manifestation of which was collective and gang bully actions, they formed ranks in the eight-year war against the Islamic revolution, and this collective action was more clearly manifested in the Persian Gulf war, but they know that the fire inside the oppressed, deprived, and tormented nations cannot be extinguished with force, gold, and assassinations.

He added: This is a warning to all leaders and chiefs of nondivine and nonpopulist governments and states that they must come to their senses and not separate themselves from the people, for the people are the main pillars of the government, and the declaration of independence in the Soviet republics has shown this reality to the world.

Continuing, he said: In view of the situation that is taking place in the world which we are witnessing, we hope that the officials in the country will give serious attention to eliminating the problems of the people through the same policies of the past, in which we were coordinated with the people.

The Five-Year Plan is certainly being implemented now, and in some provinces, although plans have been approved by both the Majles and the government, work is being done very slowly, and we hope that the government will supervise with greater care, and that it will carry out the programs provided in the provinces.

In conclusion he noted the problems in his electoral district in the areas of reconstruction, the health care and treatment situation, industry, agriculture, and water service, and he asked executive officials to look into these matters.

Mahmud Niyazi, Bijar Deputy

The final pre-agenda speaker was Mahmud Niyazi, Bijar deputy. In his talk he discussed Banking Week. He said:

Since the beginning of the triumph of the Islamic revolution, the idea of Islamic banking, inspired by the vital orthodoxy of the Koran, has been in the minds of our nation's economic managers, and study and research in the area of Islamic banking has taken its place as a new idea in the science of economics, and the presentation of this proven idea and theory is the best gift to the economy of the world. Certainly, Islamic banking is one of the important focal points of economic equilibrium, which can protect the economy from various crises and insure its health. One of the most important desires of Mr. Hashemi Rafsanjani's government is to "create economic equilibrium and stability." In this area, in establishing economic stability, the government must take all the necessary factors into consideration, meaning (1) creating and maintaining relative and reasonable price stability, (2) creating and maintaining a better balance of payments, (3) creating and maintaining a desirable level of employment, (4) the creation of suitable economic growth and expansion.

By establishing these four areas of focus, the government can certainly achieve economic stability. To carry out these focal activities, it is necessary to use a series of tools.

Continuing, he discussed the principle of general expenditures. He said: General expenditures are the costs of buying goods and the implements of production, and the costs of transitional payments. General expenditures chiefly have a direct effect on national revenues, the length of employment, general prices, the distribution of resources and finally the just distribution of income and wealth. Therefore, attention has been given to the importance of general expenditures, and the government must make every effort to bring the general expenditures under control. Balancing general payments in the economy is not possible because of the government's acceptance of new responsibilities and the spread of old responsibilities, but it is possible to control its rate of growth. The factors which figure into our country's

general expenditures and which can be named include: the uncontrolled increase in society's income, natural disasters, extravagance and dissipation, the unbridled spread of organizations, the existence of parallel offices and organizations, the lack of proper planning at all levels, the lack of clear and organized laws, lack of clarity in the government's policies and procedures, lack of confidence in the private sector in economic participation, and economic crises.

He added: The second area of focus in creating economic stability is making the best use of three factors: natural resources, manpower, and capital. Praise God, there are sufficient resources in our country, meaning suitable soil, appropriate water and climactic conditions, sufficient water, sufficient resources, oil, gas, forest, and sea. Therefore, we have no problem or shortage in this regard. Concerning manpower, the government must make every effort, using domestic and foreign resources, searching the universities, creating research centers, mobilizing all training resources, both in terms of quantity and quality, to train committed and specialist manpower. In the area of investment, the government should reduce expenses and invest more rapidly, because investment creates work and income for the people, and income increases consumption, increased consumption actually increases demand, and increased demand requires more supply. In other words, it causes increased production. This is what we are pursuing, what we need, and all our work and effort are aimed at it, for economic prosperity certainly comes in the shadow of production, something the government of Mr. Hashemi Rafsanjani is pursuing and moving towards. Elsewhere in his talk Niyazi discussed the important elements of economic stability, and the government's careful and appropriate implementation of monetary and financial policies. He said:

In the area of monetary policy, setting interest rates, interest rates on deposits, free market operations and stocks as quantitative instruments, and preferred discount documents, rationing credit and the condition on installment payment sales as instruments of quality, and in the area of financial policies implementing suitable taxes, controlling costs, investment and planning in the budget, and the management of national borrowing can play an important role in creating economic stability and balance. It is hoped that the government, with future policies planned in economic affairs to guide towards economic equilibrium, with decisive action and the use of all economic implements and tactics, with support from various classes of people, meaning with the patience and forbearance of the people, will make progress on the priority problems towards economic equilibrium and stability, that God willing as soon as possible a robust and dynamic economy will be achieved and that equilibrium and prosperous economic stability will be achieved in our country.

The speaker discussed the first vice-president's trip to the Province of Kordestan. He said: [passage omitted on Mr. Habib's visit to Kordestan Province during Government Week]

Elsewhere in his talk, the Bijar deputy discussed the problems in his electoral district. He issued a memo to the minister of petroleum concerning the shortage of fuel in the area. He said:

With more than 300 villages and with temperature below 25 degrees in winter, the Municipality of Bijan has a pronounced need for kerosene. One hundred percent of this year's allocation must be delivered and distributed in the first six months. Unfortunately, this year kerosene has been distributed in only a limited number of villages, and even there only 5 percent of the allocation, and the city is no better off than the villages. If this continues, irreparable consequences may follow from the Ministry of Petroleum's indifference and lack of concern for problems. The shortage of gasoil, both in the last year and especially this year, is fully evident. Most of the development projects are either stopped or partially stopped. This year, the spring plowing was not done at all due to the shortage of fuel, and as it is now, it is expected that the fall plowing will not be done either. Is anyone aware of these material and spiritual losses? Why is the Ministry of Petroleum indifferent, with hundreds of written and oral memos? Why does it not understand the people in the deprived areas? These are people who ..nder all conditions give everything they have for the revolution, its values and attainments, people who with their presence in former years formed a dam and a shield of flesh and blood against the counterrevolutionary and atheist minigroups and who blocked their way, drove them from the area and even now, with their efforts, are making the Municipality of Bijand the Province of Kordestan's grain warehouse. It is hoped that the Ministry of Oil will understand these noble and good people and meet their primary fuel needs.

Continuing his talk, he also gave the Ministry of Commerce a memo about the shortage of cement in the province and noted:

The shortge of cement and the lack of proper planning for its timely delivery has stopped more than 50 percent of the province's development and infrastructure projects and has made the public anxious.

At the conclusion of his talk, Niyazi reminded the Ministry of Mines and Metals concerning the failure to send the iron allocations for the years 1369 and 1370 [21 March 1990-20 March 1992] and to the government of Mr. Hashemi Rafsanjani concerning fuel, cement, and iron for the Province of Kordestan, and he asked that this be dealt with.

Ratifications

Five more articles of the Uniform Government Employee Payments Bill were approved by the deputies.

The report from RESALAT's parliamentary correspondent on yesterday's public Majles session says that during continued consideration of the details of the Uniform Government Employee Payments Bill, after

recommendations and amendments and the addition of five more articles, this bill was enacted. [passage omitted on Majles ratification]

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[Excerpt] Legislative and Parliamentary Division—The Majles met in public session yesterday morning chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Karrubi.

At this session, after talks by the deputies from Ahvaz, Khorramshahr and Najafabad, the Majles took up its agenda. After deliberations were completed on the Uniform Government Employee Payments Bill, the Speaker of the Majles thanked those who helped with the bill's preparation and approval and he expressed the hope that its implementation will bring about social justice in government organizations.

Printed below is the report from RESALAT's parliamentary correspondent on yesterday's public Majles session.

Seyyed Rasul Musavi, Ahvaz Deputy

To uproot the culture of love of luxury and ostentation, it is necessary to purge the offices of flatterers and sycophants.

The first pre-agenda speaker was Seyyed Rasul Musavi, Ahvaz deputy. During his talk he said: In its 12-year history, the Islamic nation of Iran has seen many events, any one of which could have shaken the foundations of a strong and powerful government. What has insured this divine government against disastrous dangers is the public's faith, sacrifice, steadfastness, firmness, and concern, and the leadership of the Imam, who was the architect of essential institutions and the initiator of the system's organizations.

He added: Imam Khomeyni (may God have mercy on him) made great decisions in the heat of events, at the intersection of two great roads and with reliance on God.

These people, guided by their Imam, have set the criteria for a new society and erected a new structure. Here we are, and this country has passed through the revolution and the war, has put destruction and ruin behind it, and is ready to rebuild its devastated economy. Action and effort are among the things required at this stage in the country. It is for this reason that we must plan and organize to make society's political structure strong and secure as needed for the liberation of all parts of society.

The political factions, which sometimes get into precipitous clashes, must be trained, and one must not worry about these encounters. By strengthening Constitutional rule, agreeable basic values may be put into the service of society's political structure. More than anything else, we must change the structure of society and help the people get used to collective labor, we must make them taste the sweetness of collective labor, we must clear their palates of the bitterness and bad taste of selfishness and individualism, and we must show them the right path of involvement in determining their own fate, with goodwill and sincerity and without creating masters.

Elsewhere in his talk, he discussed the scorn of ostentation and love for luxury. He said: Unfortunately, ostentation and love of luxury have their roots in our Iranian culture. Those who established this culture are in the not-so-distant past era of shahs, and the defenders of this culture, who were put into the graveyard of history along with the shahs at the dawn of the Islamic revolution, are the little shahs and shah-like people who are flatterers and sycophants. They are quite effective in the renewed spread and defense of this culture. To uproot the culture of love for luxury and ostentation, it is necessary to purge the office environments of flatterers and sycophants. There are many officials who are culturally formed in the Islamic mold, but with encouragement from the flatters and sycophants, the executive organizations themselves are caught up in love of luxury and ostentation.

He added: Public unity and unity of the Islamic nation in our country are the most important factors strengthening the government. However, the chief elements that weaken this public unity can be listed as: rumormongering and the spread of false rumors by corrupt people, paying attention to rumors, being affected by them, making judgements based on lies without the slightest investigation (unfortunately some people have even acted on them and even validate and propagate them), self-importance, selfishness, preserving private and group interests and lack of commitment to the guidance, requests and views of the Leader [Khamene'i]. All these things undermine public unity.

The fourth factor weakening public unity and the government is confrontations between Hezbollah individuals and individuals loyal to the Islamic government. Based on these confrontations opportunists, who are more worried about their own world than the interest of the Islamic government and the nation, have taken control of affairs and busied themselves with corruption and impurity, and the opportunists, with their selfishness, materialism, welfare-seeking, hoarding, and lack of commitment, are damaging the interests and honor of the government.

Most important of all, we need basic and fundamental change in the dimension of the Islamic culture. The growth of the culture of welfare and nobility in society and even among some officials, and looking to and valuing this culture in the government's political and cultural organizations, hastens the inclination of the young generation to adopt an irreligious and nihilistic culture. The solution is that we must begin with ourselves. In the elementary and secondary schools we must establish and teach a culture of brotherhood, love, cooperation, curiosity, criticism and accepting criticism, and accepting opposing views to replace the culture of hypocrisy, ostentation, flattery, factionalism, rancor, negation and rejection, accusation, backbiting, and improper and

unnecessary disclosures. This is the ethical path of Islamic values, and it is in this way that we promote Islamic ethics and values. Let us treat college students with respect and love. We must not be unkind because of improper action or plans on their part. They are the government's future officials, and their eagerness must be accepted with broadmindedness and sympathy, and we must prepare and train them to assume key management positions.

Continuing, Musavi said: The presence of criticism in society, especially in cultural societies and centers for higher education, is a necessity, because every society's evolution and progress needs proper criticism. Criticism and good will are indications that the people in a society are aware and alive. A society in which the mirror of criticism has been broken is itself broken, and will have no existence.

In conclusion he discussed the problems in his electoral district, and issued memos to officials asking that attention be given to expediting the sewage project at Golestan of Ahvaz and neighboring towns, the matter of collecting war compensation for Iranian workers living in Kuwait, the control of the price of publicly traded paper by public demand, the shortage and inferior quality of bread supplies, the lack of security, especially on the outskirts of Ahvaz, unemployment, and intracity transportation problems in Ahvaz.

Yunis Mohammadi, Khorramshahr Deputy

The second speaker was Yunis Mohammadi, Khorramshahr deputy. In his talk he discussed the words of His Holiness the Imam (peace be upon him), who said: it is an obligation to preserve the government and the people. He said:

This is a criterion and a value for assessments. Any word, action, or behavior that causes the people to be distant from the government, and any deed that weakens the public's love and concern for the government, no matter by whom, is condemned. Therefore, actions, behavior, and all political, economic, and social planning must be evaluated by the standard of preserving the government and preserving the people. Also, the word "Islamic" was linked to the word "Republic," and this linkage binds us. The fact that the government is Islamic overshadows the republic and all laws, regulations, action and behavior of the officials and the people. We must all walk one path towards one goal, and we are not allowed to follow any diversion. Any of our actions could cause the Islamic character of the government to be questioned. All the respected deputies and the respected Council of Guardians supervise the legislation of the Majles, but our faith and our beliefs must oversee implementation and adjudication.

Continuing, he added: We have a responsibility to Islam. Economic planning may progress well in the compilation, writing, and enactment stages, but the essential thing is implementation of the plan. The Majles and the government must exercise careful supervision and control of the Five-Year Plan's implementation, which has beautiful goals in its various political, economic, cultural, and social dimensions.

The speaker discussed national reconstruction. He said: The Imam (peace be upon him) said: "You must regard reconstruction as something like war." That is, just as in war most resources and equipment were sent to the fronts and the war was the foremost consideration in all planning, the same thing must be done during reconstruction, and unfortunately it is not being done. I will use the language of statistics. According to the respected governor-general of Khuzestan, Engineer Tula'i, this province needs 100 billion tomans to repair the damage done by the war. This year's budget, which is the largest one yet allocated for the province's reconstruction, was 14 billion tomans. The province credits have been used from it, and they are in a bind for the second half of the year. This means that if inflation remains stable it will take seven years to rebuild the province. According to the reconstruction official in Khorramshahr, one-eighth of Khorramshahr has been rebuilt in the past two years. With a simple prorated calculation, this means that the reconstruction of Khorramshahr will take 16 years. About 3,600 homes have already been rebuilt in Khorramshahr, while 80,000 people have returned to the city, are living in ruins and abandoned houses, and are suffering from many afflictions. I ask the respected president of the republic to pay more attention to reconstruction credits.

He then noted: On the one hand, for every person whose home has been 100 percent destroyed and leveled to the ground, in the city only up to 600,000 tomans were paid in various payments, and this figure was 200,000 tomans in the rural areas. There are plans in some villages to pay 240,000 tomans, and in places like Minu Island and the village of Minuhasi, up to 300,000 tomans. First of all, there should not be this discrimination, all the villages should be helped. Secondly, this amount is too little and less than too little for the number of people in a family. With the enormous cost of construction materials in the war-stricken areas, it really is not even possible to rebuild a room with this amount. The shortage and high cost of construction materials, the shortage of reconstruction funds, and other shortages in the war-stricken cities and villages are seriously tormenting the people. They must wait months for construction materials and to obtain the monetary payments.

All the pressures, discomforts and losses must not be imposed on the victims of the war.

He said that the Ministries of Petroleum; Roads and Transportation; Construction Jihad; Energy; Post, Telegraph, and Telephone; Agriculture; and Education and Training have been relatively more successful with their work in the Province of Khorramshahr.

Continuing, he noted: Measures have not yet been taken in about 15 villages in the Shalamcheh area, with a few

exceptions, because most of the villages in this area are filled with mines and explosives and no one is doing anything to defuse them. Nothing has yet been done in the villages of the Arvand Kenar district, and these villages are silent and forgotten. It is entirely unfortunate that in most of the cities, the afflicted emigrants are under pressure to return. They are yearning to return to their homes and rebuild them, but where can they go back to under present circumstances? Reconstruction, especially of residential homes, commercial sites and public institutions, is progressing slowly. It is entirely unfortunate that Mr. Roqani-Zanjani and the Employment Affairs Organization announced that by the end of the Five-Year Plan the Emigrants Affairs Foundation must be dissolved. If the reconstruction of Khuzestan is to take seven years, the Emigrants Affairs Foundation should be there during that time. The reconstruction of the war-stricken areas is a matter of pride for the government. They must therefore receive more attention. I ask those respected officials who have passed through the war-stricken areas on their way somewhere else, not to make so many speeches and compliments, because it makes the people in those areas unhappy. The fact that in 1369 [21 March 1990-20 March 1991] three billion rials and in 1370 [21 March 1991-20 March 1992] two billion more rials were cut from the budget of the Emigrants Affairs Foundation, and that there are plans to cut more this year, will bring more discomfort and pressure on war-afflicted people. I am vigorously opposed to the dissolution of the Emigrants Affairs Foundation at the end of the Five-Year Plan. Mr. Zanjani, or any other official wishing to dissolve the Emigrants Affairs Foundation and cause further displacement of refugees, ought first to take the trouble to visit the war-stricken areas and the war refugee camps. They ought to do some basic thinking about the future of the personnel who have labored for 11 years at the Emigrants Affairs Foundation, and then decide.

Continuing his remarks, the Khorramshahr deputy cited as a major obstacle to reconstruction the 110 hectares of land and public streets needed for administrative, cultural, and tourist sites and greenery. He said:

I appeal to the exalted Leader of the Islamic revolution. The owners of the homes and properties at these sites are not happy. No land or compensation figure has been provided, and this has caused unhappiness. Is it right from the standpoint of religious law to confiscate this property without the consent of its owners?

He enumerated the problems of the Khorramshahr border rural areas, and asked that a special representative of the president of the republic visit those areas.

Yunis Mohammadi also noted: It is not advisable under current conditions to change the governor of Khorramshahr and his deputies. They are fully informed about the problems and difficulties in Khorramshahr. I ask Engineer Tula'i, governor-general of Khuzestan Province, to take note, and, as he promised, seriously and decisively to deal with the financial and personnel problems in the Khorramshahr Reconstruction Staff.

Hasan Mokhtari, Najafabad Deputy

Today's enemies are trying to turn those who believe in the revolution against its sincere servants.

The final pre-agenda speaker was Hasan Mokhtari, Najafabad deputy. He began his talk by discussing statements by the exalted Leader. He said:

Our days were sweet during the lifetime of the Imam of the nation, and we made use every day of his valuable advice. Praise God today we are also blessed with a sincere disciple, His Holiness Ayatollah Khamene'i. What our Imam said was derived from the book of God, the Traditions of the Prophet, and the great traditions of the religion. What gave it its sweetness was his correct inference and its conformity with language. Most important of all was the nation's firm belief and action upon it. Today also, praise God, we benefit from the words of the exalted Leader of the Islamic revolution and his guidance and wisdom. He has advised the national leaders, or better if we say, all elements of the nation and the Islamic nation, to avoid ostentation and pointless expenditure. These sweet words are the words of the Islamic religion, and acting upon them will solve the problems of society.

Continuing, he added: Here I express my thanks for their good will to the brothers in the Majles who observed the words of the exalted Leader in most of the the bill. But dear ones, the commands of the religion and its great leaders advise piety and order in affairs, and these must be taken and acted upon with the eyes of the soul. Bills and legislation must be followed by action in the executive power. There is no small number of laws expressed in the form of guidelines, if they are implemented. It is not as if we should forget the issue once the laws are enacted, saying they will be implemented. Does the executive power hold the prayer service, see that fasts are kept, collect tithes and charitable contributions, make war for the sake of God, and enjoin good and prohibit evil? Piety is the element which implements these things, and it requires belief and faith. In the session where these statements were made, were not the nation's high insiders present? Come and let us all act upon it.

Elsewhere in his talk he recalled the steadfastness and resistance of the brave people of Iran during the 13 years since the Islamic revolution and the imposed war. He said: Unfortunately it is not as if the problems of the war did not take place, our society is 13 years old, but it has brought some of those problems with it and they have tried to weaken it, to the point that they have left a lifeless body for our society. Today also, using current problems, they are trying to turn those who believe in the Islamic revolution against its public servants, thereby enabling themselves to drive a wedge between the people and their servants and then attain their filthy goals. However, the public servants are people who have gotten whatever they have from you the people, and they know

that well, and praise God the public has not erred in electing them, and they are striving and making efforts to be able to keep society free of factionalism as much as possible.

Mokhtari said: If the officials are faced with a people who do want welfare and will not tolerate difficulties, the implementation of current programs and making infrastructural investments will hurt them in the next elections. However, since I know that the people are aware and can tell truth from falsehood, the people will act on their essential duty and religious obligation to you and the bloodied martyrs of the revolution, and the officials are certain that they will be supported by the loyal nation.

He expressed thanks for the labors of the mayor of Tehran, and he talked about preventing increased pressure on the people. He said: All the insiders must realize well that their protection depends on protection of the Islamic revolution, and if they think of themselves, and God forbid if they ignore the Islamic revolution, they are on a useless and pointless path. If you look at the responsibility you have only in the context of your own work, you have not acted in a revolutionary way. A revolutionary is someone who keeps the matter of the revolution and its preservation first and foremost in his mind at all times and places and in every action, and I know you are aware of this. Our people know very well that it is obligatory today to act as quickly as possible to do the nation's basic and infrastructural work, and for the sake of that they will make do with bread and salt. But brothers, is today the day when we need to replace cobblestones in the streets, which are not undesirable, with colored blocks? Is today the time when we should put stone blocks everywhere and build fountains of water? Or is today the time when we ought to take measures to reopen the streets and then deal with public discontent? I am not opposed to neatness, but sometimes it we are so attached to external color and glitter that we are not able to keep the back alleys clean. We do not live for others, although at the appropriate time and at a time when resources permit, we would like something more beautiful. If, God forbid, you think that your are putting pressure on the capitalist and comfortable classes, you are quite mistaken. In a society which has been under pressure for several years and which has to some extent lost the means for controlling prices, how can you be sure that a shopkeeper will not pocket five rials from the people on the pretext of paying one rial to you? Dear brothers, are the people of the world looking at our people because of the beauty of the cities? If that were the case, Europe is more beautiful, and if they are interested in our society, the Islamic revolution and in the beliefs of we the people in what has been done, then know and be aware that your actions will not hurt your revolution.

Continuing his talk, Mokhtari supported and defended Ayatollah Montazeri. He said:

Today when the national resolve of all public servants and people is set on the revolution nearing its aim as soon as possible, today when the hearts of all revolutionaries are one, today when everyone is speaking sympathetically and has the preservation of the revolution in mind, I consider it necessary to please Almighty God, not to please an individual or a group. I refer to the Imam of the nation's letter addressed to His Holiness Grand Ayatollah Montazeri, in which he said: "I see it in your interest and that of the revolution that you should be a theologian whose views are utilized by the system and the people, and, God willing, in your talks you will give warmth to the seminary and the system." In the view of the Imam, we should achieve our objectives by using his words through the media.

Statement by the Majles Speaker

During a talk at yesterday's public Majles session, Majles Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Karrubi said that the month of Shahrivar [23 August-22 September] is an eventful month in the revolution. He discussed the first demonstration of millions of people in Shahrivar 1357 [1979], the talk by the people of Iran on 17 Shahrivar [8 September] and the martyring of Raja'i, Bahonar and Ayatollah Qodusi, Islamic revolutionary prosecutor. He said: All of these events strengthened and stabilized the foundations of the revolution.

He added: Despite domestic and foreign efforts to oppose the actions of the Islamic revolution, these martyrdoms fanned the flames of the revolution and its influence in the hearts of the Muslims of the world. [passage omitted on Majles ratification]

On the Majles Peripheries

At yesterday's session, a number of deputies from Zanjan Province protested to the minister of the interior in a written memo the change of the governor of Qazvin, and this memo was conveyed to the executive officials by the Speaker of the Majles as a memo from deputies.

On the other hand, at last week's Friday prayer sermon Hojjat ol-Eslam Barikbin, the Friday imam of Qazvin, protested changing the governor of Qazvin without the knowledge and cc..sultation of the Majles deputies, the clergy and the representative of the Vali-ye Faqih.

Likewise Mr. Mirza Abu Talebi, Boin Zahra and Owj deputy, in a three-minute Majles speech Monday this week, supported the change of the governor.

After the completion of its activities yesterday, the Majles probably will not meet next week.

The report from RESALAT's parliamentary correspondent states that no explanation was announced why the Majles probably will not meet in public session next week. The only announcement came yesterday when Mr. Hashemian, speaker of the session, announced that the date of the next public session will be announced in the media.

After the speaker of the session did not announce the date of the next Majles session and deferred it to a secondary announcement, one of the deputies cried out "Bravo!"

*** 11 Sep**

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[Excerpt] Report on Yesterday's Open Session of the Majles

Legislative and parliamentary division. The open session of the Majles was held yesterday morning with Hojjat ol-eslam Karrubi presiding.

In this session, following the statements of the representative of Mashhad, Sanandaj and Fasa, the Majles went into session.

Below you shall read a report on yesterday's open session of the Majles.

Qorban Ali Saleh-Abadi, the Representative of Mashhad

Institutions such as the Foundation for the Oppressed, Astan-e Qods, and the Shahid Foundation must play an anti-inflationary role by offering inexpensive items.

The first pre-agenda speaker was Qorban Ali Saleh-Abadi, the representative of Mashhad, who offered his condolences on the anniversary of the death of the Prophet and Imam 'Ali b. Musa al-Reza. Then, referring to the anniversary of the death of Ayatollah Taleqani, he said: In 1357 [21 March 1978-20 March 1979] when, with the pressure and the widespread demonstrations of the people and the decisive leadership of the Imam, the regime was forced to release Ayatollahs Taleqani and Montazeri from prison, one million people in Tehran turned out to welcome these two great spiritual and revolutionary personalities. When Ayatollah Taleqani passed away in 1358 [21 March 1979-20 March 1980], millions of people throughout Iran wept for the loss of this revered personality.

In another part of his speech, he referred to the problems of the presence of the Afghan refugees in the province [of Khorasan] and in Mashhad and said: It has been more than 12 years since about 2.5 million Afghan refugees came to Iran, of whom 70,000 [700,000?] reside in the cities of the Province of Khorasan. Of this number, 400,000 live in Mashhad and its suburbs, and if serious steps are not taken to return them to their homes or establish them in camps, considering the attractiveness of the city of Mashhad, in the future the migration of the Afghan population to Mashhad, as in the past, will increase, and this issue will have negative political, economic, social, cultural, and particularly security consequences for the province and the city.

He added: In the same connection, late in 1368 [early 1990] the legislative proposal for the gathering and settling of the Afghan refugees was placed on the agenda of the Majles, which confronted the opposition of the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the President. At that time, the government said that in this area, it had a more appropriate proposal than the one under discussion. Unfortunately, so far no steps have been implemented in regards to the above-mentioned proposal.

Saleh Abadi referred to the problems with regard to drinking water and said: Even though with the opening of the first water processing plant this year there has been a relative improvement in the area of drinking water, if the officials of the Ministry of Energy do not implement both short-term and long-term programs, with the increase in the number of pilgrims and also the constant growth of the population in Mashhad, the issue of the drinking water shortage will be more critical next year. Unfortunately, the Ministry of Energy has acted weakly in regards to the water operations in Khorasan and Mashhad, and with the passage of several years since the expiration of the protocol for the building of the border dam on the Tajan River between Iran and the Soviet Union, which is planned to provide drinking water in the long term, it has not taken appropriate and serious steps.

The representative of Mashhad pointed out in connection with control and supervision over prices:

Pricing [of goods] and control over their purchase and sale is an essential and vital need of the present society and is one of the methods of protecting the low-income classes. In most countries of the world, this method is used to protect the vulnerable strata. Now, the question is, why do the judicial and executive systems not implement the law of government punishments ratified in 1367 [21 March 1988-20 March 1989] by the honorable Council for the Discernment of Expediency, which is now valid and which was created to supervise and control the economic activities and also reform the system and deal with the violators, hoarders and price hikers?

The speaker continued: The government has announced that the gross national product showed an increase of 10.2 percent in 1369 [21 March 1990-20 March 1991] compared to 1368 [21 March 1989-20 March 1990]. Although this trend is praiseworthy, because of the absence of a sound distribution system and lack of strengthening the cooperative sector, in practice this increase in the gross national product has had no positive effect on the general economic situation of the country. It becomes clear that the distribution situation is inappropriate and abandoned, and we must think of something to do. I suggest that the government take steps in creating a sound distribution system and also strengthening the cooperative sector. In this area, the government can prepare a bill on the duties of the three—government, cooperative, and private—sectors with consideration for Article 44 of the Constitution for appropriate new efforts and present it to the Majles.

He added:

The amount of imports of raw materials and goods from abroad in 1369 [1990-91] was more than $30 billion, the

major part of which was purchased by the private sector unchecked and the remainder by the government sector. Because of lack of controls and guidance by the government, which were expected to be imposed after the elimination of the centers for procurement and distribution of goods, most raw materials and goods are purchased more expensively than in the past and imported into the country, and domestic and foreign middlemen have made huge profits from these purchases. It is hoped that the government will implement new policies in this area, limit the ways of misuse and foreign purchases, and increase its supervisory role, which will secure the national interests of the country.

Saleh Abadi referred to the high price of goods produced by the Foundation for the Self-Sacrificers, Astan-e Qods of Imam Reza and the Shahid Foundation and said: At the present time, the companies affiliated with the Foundation for the Oppressed and Self-Sacrificers offer their products and goods to the society at high prices which are nearly those of the open market, whereas these institutions must play an anti-inflationary role by offering inexpensive goods and in this way help the weak classes in the society. I propose to the honorable government that, in order to help reform the general economy of the country, supervision be imposed in the area of production and distribution by the procedures of the above-mentioned institutions and they not be left on their own to produce and distribute to the market any way they wish.

Concerning the interpretation of Article 99 of the Constitution by the Council of Guardians, he said:

The Majles disregarded the proposal on the legislative amendment of the election law, which was a serious matter of conflict between the two factions with the aim of preventing new tensions in the country. Now, the question is whether or not the honorable Council of Guardians as well will consider a similar step by retaking its supervisory role, which it considers "approbatory," on the basis of Article 99 of the Constitution. Supervision from the legal perspective becomes meaningful with regard to executive action. In other words, one group does something and another group oversees whether it is right or wrong. For this purpose, in the present law of holding elections two committees have been anticipated: (1) the executive committee for elections and (2) the supervisory committee for Majles elections. Verification or rejection of the competence of the candidates is according to the present law the duty of the executive committee for elections.

In conclusion, the representative of Mashhad issued a reminder to the judicial branch and said: Unfortunately, every year in the beginning of Mehr [23 September] the judicial branch engages in clearing the student dormitories. This issue, in my opinion, can be examined to some degree as to whether the Majles should investigate why the judicial branch clears the dormitories when the universities are about to open. In recent days, we have witnessed the clearing of the girls' dormitories by the judicial branch.

Abdol Karim Ahmad-Nejad, the Representative of Sanandaj

Unemployment has been and is one of the factors in creating social and political problems in the province.

Abdol Karim Ahmad-Nejad, from Sanandaj, was the second pre-agenda speaker.

He referred to the anniversary of the departure of the Prophet from Mecca to Medina (the beginning of the Muslim calendar) and expressed hope that in these days we shall witness the unity of Muslims throughout the world.

In continuation, he referred to the approaching 1370-71 [1991-92] academic year and said: We hope in the next academic year we will witness more attention paid by the honorable government to teachers, this hard-working and self-sacrificing stratum, because teachers are sincere, true servants of the people in the regime, with few expectations, and despite the shortages, shortcomings and living problems, they serve to build the future of this Islamic society untiringly, sincerely and compassionately.

In another part of his speech, Ahmad-Nejad referred to the problems of his constituency and the Province of Kurdistan and said: The Province of Kurdistan, despite having significant potential, including agriculture, mines and especially young manpower and the intellectual talent of its people, due to the wrong policies of the past regime, was held back, and much pressure was imposed on this region of the Islamic country. With the establishment of the Islamic government, the majority of the high-ranking officials of the country displayed much interest in eliminating poverty and in economic and social development in that province. Effective steps such as providing appropriate funds and necessary resources were taken, and small and large production units were created. But we can be hopeful about the economic development of this region and overcoming its political problems when the necessary foundations and the production units in major economic sectors, such as agriculture and industry, are created, because unemployment has been and is one of the factors in creating social and political problems in the province. Of course, the preliminary steps have been taken with the implementation of the natural gas pipelines project and providing security, which have made the private sector active in investing in production. But, due to the inability of local investors, it is not possible to carry out important projects and the province needs national investments and the creation of a proper course for these investments.

In continuation, he added: The level of annual rainfall in the Province of Kurdistan is more than 500 millimeters, and the volume of water obtained from rain exceeds 12 billion cubic meters. This God-given blessing is not well utilized, as most of it leaves the province and even Iran. Harnessing this water can be an essential policy in

developing the agricultural sector. The studies that have been conducted in the province so far show that one of the main centers of development in the province is the agricultural sector, because this province is one of the grain-producing provinces of the country, and every year a significant amount of surplus grain is sold to the government. On the average, in the past years the amount has been 250,000 tons. However, due to lack of storage facilities, inaccessibility to purchasing agents, and lack of proper roads, significant amounts of it are transported to other provinces.

In another part of his speech, he said: Considering the above-mentioned, if work is done on the water procurement projects, agricultural resources and increase of operations on every hectare, this province can render effective help in providing foodstuff for the country.

He added: Further problems of the Province of Kurdistan include lack of technical knowledge and specialized and trained manpower and, most importantly, lack of educational resources, particularly higher education.

Ahmad-Nejad considered the creation of medical, technical, engineering and agricultural universities to be one of the ways to eliminate the problems of the province in regards to training specialized manpower and also issued reminders to the executive officials in regards to other problems of the province.

Hedayatollah Aqa'i, the Representative of Fasa

The last pre-agenda speaker was Hedayatollah Aqa'i, from Fasa.

Referring to the anniversary of the death of Ayatollah Taleqani, he spoke on his struggles.

Aqa'i said: In today's world and in the past decades, we have witnessed limitations on human beings by the East and the West. The Eastern systems, inspired by Marxist ideologies, have choked human beings and have curtailed their intellectual, cultural and political channels. And the Western world, by various methods and on the basis of capitalist profiteering, has polluted the climate of free thought, decisionmaking and living freely. Certainly, both movements at both poles of the world are directed towards breaking the walls and removing the obstacles. God willing, in the not-too-distant future, we shall see the destruction of all Western and Eastern heathen regimes.

He added: What is worthy of note in this period of change are the lessons taken by the growing movements which claim leadership throughout the world to improve their own policies and organizational foundations. In the same vein, I am addressing the revolutionary brothers and sisters, especially those who are at high levels of decisionmaking or are influential in finding directions. Decisively, we can say that the crumbling of the Marxist regime, before beginning with the signs that appeared in its ideology, began with the removal of its restricting obstacles. Let us remember that if, in the name of Islam or revolution or anything else, we plan to threaten free thinking and make it difficult to speak, we would have done nothing but walk along the course of destroying our foundations. We can be strong and steadfast holders of the banner of the mobilization of the oppressed and the downtrodden in the world against the new polarizations when we respect the people's ideas and opinions and are tolerant of their words and deeds. By raising the club of excommunication and labeling one person or another, we cannot hope to find a place in the hearts of the people.

In another part of his speech, he said: While expressing joy about the subsiding of the attacks and insults through some newspapers following the statements of the grand Leader, I declare my disappointment about some of the childish and sometimes planned actions which are taking place as we approach the fourth Majles elections to destroy the reputation of the revolutionary and religious individuals.

A distinct example of such destruction was seen in the speech of one of the negligent gentlemen which was delivered recently in Kashan. Such actions will cause a large stratum of the people to feel insecure with regard to political affairs, which will result in skepticism and rebellion. I ask the local officials, particularly the honorable governors general, to provide more favorable possibilities for offering ideas and opinions through open meetings and round-table discussions in order to eliminate the spread of rumors and the publication of various letters and underground newspapers.

In continuation, Aqa'i referred to the visit of the United Nations Secretary General to our country and, addressing him, said: Your honor, Mr. de Cuellar, as a representative of the people, I consider political activities as positive, but if the purpose of your visit was to resolve the issue of the hostages in Lebanon, or mainly to do so, I must point out that you have made at least one mistake, which is, unwittingly, you have been placed in the propaganda chain of the West under the pretext of the release of hostages, mainly to justify their interference in the Middle and Near Eastern countries.

In conclusion, he said: Considering the approach of the reopening of the universities and higher education centers in the country, it is necessary to point out that despite what has been accomplished, unfortunately, the beloved students are facing serious housing problems and steps to clear the student dormitories, under the present circumstances and before another place is prepared, can result in a crisis in the education environments. Here, I would like to express my gratitude for the revolutionary action of the grand Leader to reduce the existing problems and his emphatic instructions to show consideration for this stratum, and I request that the administrative organizations cooperate in any possible form to allocate the empty spaces of the buildings for the housing of the students, given that the Majles, too, has emphasized this issue in the ratified laws, and at the present it is ready to examine the bills that the government will prepare for this purpose. [passage omitted on

Karrubi speech commemorating death anniversary of Ayatollahs Taleqani and Madani]

Ratifications

The report of the RESALAT parliamentary correspondent on yesterday's open session of the Majles indicates that top priority proposed by a number of representatives for the legislation to attach a paragraph to the chart of Part A of Note 15 of the 1370 [21 March 1991-20 March 1991] budget law was examined and discussed. After voting, the priority was ratified. (This legislation was devised in regards to the financial problems of the library of Grand Ayatollah Mar'ashi-Najafi.)

Also, a proposal called the amendment of Article 129 of the internal bylaws of the Majles was offered by a number of representatives with top priority, too, but only its priority was ratified.

The last item on the agenda of the Majles yesterday was the top priority proposal to amend and omit some articles of the law on the registration of documents and property ratified on 31/04/1365 [22 July 1986] and attaching some articles to it. The general points and one article of this proposal were ratified, and the continuation of the examinations was postponed to the next session.

Based on Article 1, Article 147 of the above law shall be amended as follows:

Article 147. The registration situation with regard to what has been built on lands by individuals up to 01/10/1370 [22 December 1991] and for which, due to legal obstacles, official deeds could not be issued, and also the registration situation of agricultural lands, farming arrangements, and orchards, both urban and nonurban, as well as lands outside the city limits which are being used by occupants and were purchased by individuals up to the above-mentioned date, for which, due to legal obstacles, issuance of deeds or ownership documents was not possible, shall be determined as follows:

1. If there is an agreement between the occupant and the owner, after the occupant receives an uncontested occupancy approval by an expert appointed by the registration office, provided there are no protests, the director of the registration office shall issue instructions to continue the registration operations in the name of the occupant to issue an ownership deed.

2. When the transfer (whether official or unofficial) has been held in joint ownership and occupancy is shared, and there is an agreement between the occupant and the joint owner, after expert opinion is rendered, preparation of the general layout of the property, in which the occupied area is recorded, and after obtaining uncontested occupancy, provided the occupied portion does not exceed the share of the seller and other owners also confirm the case, the director of registration shall issue instructions to determine the boundaries and the requested right of easement and other requirements in order to issue shared ownership deeds. Otherwise, the registration operations shall continue as joint ownership, and if the joint owners cannot be reached or a protest is received, the case shall be referred to the committee for resolving conflicts cited in Article 2 of this law.

3. In regards to regions such as Mazandaran, often there are separate owners of land and the related land-property. In these cases, what is transacted is often the related property, and the last person to hold the property is the applicant of the ownership deed, the committee cited in Article 2 shall investigate such requests; and if the evidence is substantiated and both parties agree, in accordance with Paragraph 1 of this article, otherwise retaining the rights of the owner of the property, the ruling shall be issued on the ownership deed of the related property as is customary in the area.

4. If the occupant is unable to submit his unofficial ownership deed to the committee cited in Article 3, taking into consideration all aspects of the matter under investigation, and if the committee obtains the agreement of both parties and the claimant does not protest, the matter shall be announced to the local registration office for the issuance of an ownership deed.

5. If there is a difference of opinion between persons in regards to occupation, or a protest is submitted, or the director of registration is unable to make a decision, and also if the property is a religious endowment, or the owner is government or the City Hall, the issue shall be referred to the committee on resolving differences cited in Article 2 of this law.

6. In cases when the occupant with an unofficial deed requests an official deed, the matter shall be sent to the committee on resolving the differences cited in Article 2 of this law. The committee shall investigate, and upon determining the rightful ownership occupancy of the applicant, the result shall be announced to the registration office to be advertised twice, 15 days apart, in an appropriate manner. If within two months from the date of the publication of the first advertisement a protest is made, the protestor shall be guided to the proper court. Steps for registration will be dependent on the decisive ruling of the court, and if there is no protest, the registration office shall issue an ownership deed in accordance with the regulations. The issuance of new ownership deeds shall not prevent the losing party from going to court.

Also, in this session, the following bills were announced to have been received.

1. Bill on revision of the rulings of courts.

2. Bill on determining the New Year bonus and annual bonuses of workers and employees in the workshops subject to the labor law.

3. Bill on exempting the retirement of those working in nursing, subject to Note 1 of Article 2 of the amending law of retirement and military services regulations of the national employment law.

4. Bill on amending Note 1 of amending Article 19 of the law on punishing smugglers.

5. Bill on procedures for the eviction from the organization houses of the armed forces, the Ministry of Defense, the armed forces support staff, and the security forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

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[Excerpt] Report on Thursday's Open Session of the Majles

Legislative and parliamentary division. The open session of the Majles was held on Thursday morning with Hojjat ol-Eslam Karrubi presiding.

In this session, following the statements of the representatives of Khoy, Kashan, Dasht-e Azadegan and Moghan, the Majles went into session.

Hashem Hejazi-Fard, the Representative of Khoy

The dignity and personality of the regime depends on allegiance to Velayat-e Faqih and strengthening the Islamic rule and government.

The first pre-agenda speaker was Hashem Hejazi-Fard, from Khoy.

Referring to the important statements of the Leader [Khamene'i] of the Islamic revolution in his meeting with the officials, he said: Unfortunately, some of the dear friends, instead of fighting the conspiracies of the oppressors, have begun fighting the regime, and some of the newspapers also by questioning the organization of the regime, such as Friday prayers, the Council of Guardians, the judicial branch, the [Assembly of] Experts, and the government, throw stones at the delicate glass-building of the regime. In itself, this is a kind of sinning and oiling the wheels of the mills of others. Sometimes, even by creating despair and spiritual doubt, they try to isolate a government that they have elected themselves and then boast of fighting the oppressors, while they know full well that the seemingly slight mistake of the guard is to doze off, which would result in a great fire.

Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani has been the hope of the oppressed and the downtrodden and for the first time is the President and in charge of the government. With his own particular policy, he has begun the Five-Year Plan competently and proudly and is using all his power and ability to bring the ship of the national economy, which is stuck in the muck, to shore, a task that requires overall support.

He added: The dignity and personality of our regime is dependent on allegiance to Velayat-e Faqih and the strengthening of the Islamic Government and the government of Mr. Hashemi. Hence, with efforts to implement these wishes, these prominent people will bring us closer to that lofty destination.

Hejazi-Fard continued: By activating the public relations offices, the government hopes to prevent direct referral of the people to the offices through a scheduled plan. The public relations offices hope to compel the concerned units to send the related answers, at specified times with precise control, by mail to the owners and stop administrative waste of time and corruption. Considering that vacant lands within the limits of the plan have been taken over and transferred, and now the urban land agency has no land to transfer, by building government townships, the government can eliminate this factor of inflation for the freed POW brothers and the families of the martyrs, self-sacrificers, educators, and students, and even the public, and save these people from confusion. At the present, such persons as the freed POW brothers are having difficulty and have no refuge but the government.

The representative of Khoy continued: The city of Khoy, for the purpose of culture and in order for the sincere and committed forces to advance the cultural objectives, requires the creation of scientific centers such as medical, midwifery, and teacher-training colleges, and agricultural, technical, and trade schools. Considering that the necessary resources in all respects are ready, the increased efforts of the concerned officials will promote culture and please God.

The representative of Khoy also emphasized the procurement of agricultural machinery, fuel, and the other necessities of his constituency and added: The honorable Ministry of Guidance and the Voice and Vision Agency merely react to the cultural propaganda invasion, especially to the public production and distribution of obscene tapes of foreign female and male singers and playing Western music, and this sometimes exacerbates this unpleasant situation. It is hoped that the spread of this disease of Westernization and improper veiling will be rapidly and seriously fought and prevented.

Mahmud Jamali, the Representative of Kashan

Mahmud Jamali, the representative of Kashan, was the second pre-agenda speaker. He referred to the recent changes in the Soviet Union and said:

The communist empire, with all its walls and fortresses, crumbled and was destroyed because it was established contrary to the nature of man and the law of creation. This is the most enlightening lesson of history for all the rulers and powerful people of the East and the West who have based their government and power on domination, force, deception, and deceit. In the meantime, because of its extraordinary importance, I ask the honorable National Security Council and the honorable President himself, who during the Persian Gulf war thoughtfully

and profoundly made the most desirable policies, to also follow the changes with the necessary sensitivity and precision and make the necessary timely response.

He then pointed out to the United Nations Secretary general: Our nation considers the full implementation of Resolution 598 an inevitable necessity for the establishment of peace in the region and regards all the events in the region, including the Persian Gulf war, the foreign influence, and the stationing of the world-devouring United States in the region, a result of the negligence and delay in its implementation. A nation that has offered thousands of martyrs, war prisoners, and missing persons and hundreds of billions of dollars for its ideals and ideology will never consent to anything less than the full implementation of Resolution 598.

He then spoke about the national economic issues and said:

Our conditions today are the sad legacy of the previous regime, on the one hand, and the war-stricken economy of the eight years of imposed war, on the other. But now that we are in the period of reconstruction and the majority of problems and destructions have surfaced, our duty is to repair the destruction and achieve the promises of the revolutionary period. We must strive to reform the economic structure in order to seriously secure economic independence. For a country that suffered $1,000 billion in damages during the war, all of its production having been shut down or destroyed, the world having closed its doors to it, and having been involved in an economic embargo, can one imagine any other reasonable way except reliance on the people, seeking help from the rich public forces, and general participation in the economic reconstruction? How can we extend the closed monopolistic method, which was a characteristic of the war conditions and was very successful, to the time of reconstruction? Have high prices not resulted from severe class differences and, because of it, have not some nouveau riche gained wealth?

Jamali asked for a revision of the tax system and said in this regard: We must somehow transfer the pressure from the law and middle-income classes to the high-income class. Essentially, taxes in a recognized system are used to control severe class differences.

He added: All of us know about the people's problems, especially the high prices and their low purchasing power. But in order to be freed from the burden of high prices and inflation and to establish social justice, there is no other way but to create jobs and increase production. This cannot be achieved except through public participation and employing all the human and financial resources. When I say public participation and strongly emphasize it, I do not want to leave the impression of associating it with the economy of the past regime, which was a kind of monopoly and a very private system that had only a few families and the support of SAVAK [National Security and Intelligence Organization (the Shah's secret police)] and the royal court behind it. No, public participation in its true sense means the elimination of all monopolies, making everyone have a share and utilizing all financial, physical, intellectual, and scientific capital of the whole nation to improve the economic structure of the Islamic regime. As it has been anticipated in the Constitution, we must prepare the grounds for utilizing all the talents so that, by the grace of God and with the cooperation of the people, we can organize the economic system, which is a fundamental basis for the survival of the revolution without disregarding and deviating from the precepts of the revolution.

The speaker expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the efforts of the President and said:

Since the victory of the revolution, both during the war and the acceptance of the resolution which resulted in the victory of the Islamic Republic in the war, and even in the Persian Gulf and the invasion of the multinational forces, the decision for a global policy, raising the issue of the Islamic Republic in international assemblies, especially the brave positions in economic efforts, which have been successful, as evidenced by the statistics and figures, has worked very well, which I value and appreciate. Also, I sincerely thank the members of his government who are trying sincerely to bring the ship of the revolution from the tumultuous ocean and global conspiracies to the shore of safety with the cooperation and support of the honorable representatives of the Majles.

He then offered several reminders as follows:

(1) Since about 90 percent of our national revenues are provided from the oil sector, and the OPEC quotas are based on the potential capacity and the wells that are ready for use, I consider more investment in the oil industry, especially in exploration necessary.

(2) With a little help for the agricultural sector, the purchase of wheat this year borders on 3 million tons, which illustrates the frontier of production. Also, the failure of the dangerous premise of the opponents of agricultural investment, because the agricultural issue, while it is an economic one, is not merely economic. The political dignity of the Islamic revolution is bound by self-sufficiency. While valuing the efforts of the brothers in that ministry, I request more support in the Cabinet and the Majles.

(3) The Ministry of Mines and Metals is one of the fundamental sectors of the economy. Fortunately, in this ministry, by choosing competent and experienced directors, eliminating bureaucracy and entrusting production in the mines to the people, a beautiful model has been created in this regard. According to a report by the Plan and Budget Organization on the operations of this ministry in 1368 [21 March 1989-20 March 1990] and 1369 [21 March 1990-20 March 1991], in connection with the increased value of production, the average growth and use of the capacities have been nearly 100 percent of the projected goals, and in some cases mineral productions have even exceeded projected figures. The indices on the production of steel, copper, and aluminum have been

above expectations. The operation of the huge Mobarakeh steel mill, according to the latest estimates, will begin one year ahead of schedule. This operation has resulted in the support and encouragement of the various representatives of the Majles, especially that of the honorable speaker of the Majles, his honor Hojjat ol-Eslam Karrubi.

Jasem Jaderi, the Representative of Dasht-e Azadegan

Today, support for the foundations of the Islamic regime and avoiding disunity are obligatory.

The last pre-agenda speaker was Jasem Jaderi, the representative of Dasht-e Azadegan, who first referred to the speech of the grand Leader and considered his statements the pivotal point of hope in the present sensitive moments.

He then added: Undoubtedly, strengthening the government of Mr. Hashemi to overcome the problems and eliminate the economic hardships is the duty of all of us. And so far, the Majles, as well, with its timely ratification of the plan and budget, the funds and legislative bills and proposals needed by the government, has displayed its sincerity and cooperation in the best possible manner. But it should not be forgotten that the compassionate reminders and the criticism of some of the improper methods and policies are also duties in enabling us to improve the economic structure, which if neglected will be considered a failure to carry out our duties. Today, support for the foundations of the Islamic regime, efforts to achieve the goals and ideals of the revolution, strengthening the unity of the society and the revolutionary forces and avoiding disunity and conflict are most obligatory. In the present sensitive moments in particular, being of the same mind and united against all sorts of conspiracy seems inevitable.

He added: The honorable government of Mr. Hashemi, while treating the sick economy of the country and trying to promote the present resources and funds towards investments, must also be considerate of the condition of the weak strata of the society who are losing their ability in the face of the economic reforms, because today the extra high prices of goods, which are the result of the economic modification policy and the problems stemming from the eight years of imposed war, have increased the uncontrolled number of poor and downtrodden in the society and have reduced the purchasing power and ability of the majority of them. On the one hand, high prices and inflation and, on the other, the unfair actions of the businessmen have caused double pressure on the low-income people, affairs over which supervision and control are required.

The representative of Dasht-e Azadegan returned to the problems of his constituency in another part of his speech and said:

Lack of drainage, the length of studies and the excessive saline content of the lands in Dasht-e Azadegan will be catastrophic to the agricultural sector in the region, which cannot be repaired easily. Unfortunately, every day the number of disappointed and despairing farmers increases, and despite the fact that water, land, and various agricultural programs are available, the level of barren and saline lands continues to increase, while the Ministry of Energy is struggling in the twists and turns of its studies of several years ago. Of course, after these several years, the studies on the building of Karkheh Dam will reach results, and we must be thankful. But building this dam and the new irrigation networks and drainage, especially on the lower areas of Karkheh, considering the trend of the studies and operations in the honorable Ministry of Energy, will take long years, and the operations may not benefit the present generation.

Continuing his speech, he said: The effects of the imposed war have increased new problems and destroyed vast agricultural lands in the region. Considering the special climatic conditions that make agricultural activity possible all year round and make two harvests a year possible, and given the existence of large water resources in the soil and the possibility of expanding new agricultural techniques, the necessary conditions exist for mass production of essential and profitable products. Unfortunately, due to the shortage of skilled and specialized manpower, lack of desirable operations in the management of water resources, and utilizing old and traditional methods, and the drainage of most lands that have the danger of becoming saline, it is possible to harm activity in this sector. The Karkheh River, with 4.8 billion cubic meters of water output annually and an average water output of 153 cubic meters per second, is the third largest river in the Province of Khuzestan, which, due to the limitations on its use, is utilized mostly by means of pumping. Also, due to legal problems as well as lack of a rational system in this regard, the result has been that the other resources in the agricultural sector have not been used.

Jaderi referred to the problems of the people in the region and said: The insignificance of the amount in the rural residential funds for every family, the high price of construction material, the high rates for transportation, and lack of conformity and coordination with other sectors, and numerous other problems have been created in regard to the people's return. In some reconstructed villages, due to the lack of drinking water, schools, and other resources, it is impossible to live. Unfortunately, the job of the reconstruction of schools does not appear favorable, so that of the 14 schools approved in the budget this year in the Hoveizeh district, so far, only one case has been handled. This requires more attention by the officials for the reconstruction of schools.

In conclusion, the representative of Dasht-e Azadegan expressed praise for the hard work of the reconstruction officials of the province and the capital and said: While thanking and appreciating the follow-up of the special inspectors of the President and the administrative office of the Supreme National Security Council, I request that the general command headquarters give the necessary instructions in regards to cleaning up the prohibited

areas and the return of the refugees in accordance with the suggestion of the honorable administrative office of the Supreme National Security Council.

Habib Borumand, the Representative of Moghan

Habib Borumand, the representative of Moghan, was the third speaker. He used three minutes of the time of the representative of Dasht-e Moghan. In his brief speech, he referred to the changing of two districts of the city of Moghan to cities and said:

For more than 17 years, the oppressed, martyr-nurturing and border-protecting people of Bilehsavar have been waiting for this district to be rezoned a city, and towards this end, they have made praiseworthy strides. Especially in the past few years, they have increased their activities, and their honorable, people-loving, revolutionary and hardworking Friday imam, his honor Hojjat ol-Eslam Haj Aqa Shafi'i, has made every effort on this path. In any case, the Parsabad District of Moghan, due to the God-given potential and being unbelievably receptive to immigrants, which is increasing its population, was given priority in the province and should have become a city years ago. But, due to the disruptions and inattention by some individuals in the Ministry of Interior prior to the time the revered, hardworking and competent brother, Mr. Nuri, took charge, this issue was postponed. During government week, on the instructions of the honorable President, with the special attention and the blessed visit of the honorable minister of the country and the efforts, assistance,and continuous hard work of the good and revered governor general of the Province of Eastern Azerbaijan, brother Engineer Parhizkar, this important issue was resolved, the above-mentioned districts were changed into cities, and the serving governor went to work to serve the people. Moreover, three villages in Moghan—Angut, Aslanduzi, and Ja'farabad—changed to districts, and thereby the best service was rendered to our people.

Ratifications

Examination of the continuation of the proposal to amend Articles 1, 2, and 3 of the law on amending and omitting some articles of the law for records, documents, and property ratified on 31/4/1365 [22 July 1986] and attaching some articles to it was discussed in the open session of the Majles, and the remaining articles were ratified. [passage omitted on Majles ratifications]